

Amendments to the Drawings

Please substitute for the single Sheet of Replaced Drawings which forms one page of the two-page Appendix the Single Sheet of Replacement Drawings which forms the second page in the two-page Appendix. The drawing has been annotated to show an engine, reference number 12A.

Remarks/Arguments

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action dated August 14, 2006 regarding the above-identified U.S. Patent Application.

In that Action, the Examiner (a) objected technically to certain contents present in claims 1 and 11, (b) suggested that claims 6-10, inclusive, previously withdrawn, now be cancelled, and (c) further suggested that some form of illustration of an aircraft engine, which is not part of the present invention, be entered into the drawings.

By the present Amendment, applicant (a) has proposed certain text-correcting claim revisions along the lines suggested by the Examiner, (b) has introduced, as a substitute for the current single page of drawings on file in this case, a new Replacement Sheet of Drawings, which Replacement Sheet adds to Figs. 1 and 2 a fragmentary, dashed-line, schematic illustration of an aircraft engine, and (c) believes that, with entry of this Amendment, all claims remaining in this application are in conditions for formal allowance.

While applicant notes, as mentioned above, that an aircraft engine is not a component of applicant's invention, applicant nevertheless complies with the drawings-change suggestion made by the Examiner by introducing a Replacement Sheet of Drawings which places in Figs. 1 and 2, at 12A, fragmentary, schematic illustration, in dashed lines, of an aircraft engine. An appropriate, related change has been made on page 4 in the specification to conform language in the specification to changes thus made in Figs. 1 and 2. No new matter has been added by these specification and drawings changes.

With respect to the claims, modest corrective, current amendments have been made in claims 1 and 11. Claims 2-5, inclusive, have been retained as original claims. Claims 6-10, inclusive, have been cancelled without prejudice.

Applicant notes that the Examiner has closed prosecution on the merits in this case in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle.

With entry of this Amendment, therefore, all remaining claims in this case are in conditions for full formal allowance, and such favorable action is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the amendment or remarks, the Examiner is invited to contact Attorney-of-Record Jon M. Dickinson, Esq., at 503-504-2271.

Provisional Request for Extension of time in Which to Respond

Should this response be deemed to be untimely, Applicants hereby request an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any over-payment to Account No. 22-0258.

Customer Number

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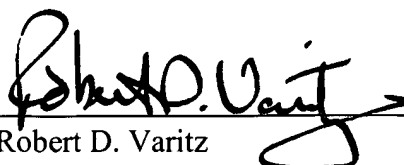
Respectfully Submitted,

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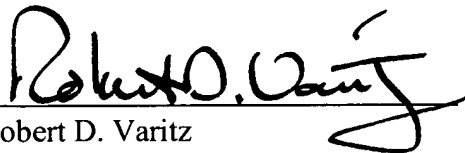
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I hereby certify that the attached Response to Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to:

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Washington, D.C. 22313-1450


Robert D. Varitz